

SENATE FISH AND GAME

EXHIBIT NO. 7

DATE 3/22/11

BILL NO. HB 339

House Bill 339

March 22, 2011

Presented by Dave Risley

Senate Fish and Game Committee

Mr. Chairman and committee members, I am Dave Risley, Fish and Wildlife Division Administrator of Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP). I am here in support of House Bill 339

HB339 would eliminate the limit on the number of Class B-13 Nonresident youth licenses big game combinations licenses the Department may sell. Currently the Class B-13 is capped at 300 licenses with a fee of \$458.50. The fee is set at one-half the price of the cost of the Class B-10 nonresident big game combination license.

Since the implementation of the Class B-13 in License Year 2006, the quota was not met for the first three years. As the knowledge of the opportunity for nonresident youths spread, the quota was met the last two years. The Department anticipates an additional 200 Class B-13 licenses will be sold annually if HB339 passes.

The bill currently has an effective date of March 1, 2012 but FWP could implement the bill as early as March 2, 2011 (the new license year) if passed and signed before that date.